

## REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated January 10, 2008. Claims 1, 5-9, 12, 17, 18, 23, 24 and 29 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 12, 17 and 29 are in independent form. Claims 2-4, 7, 11, 13-16, 19-22 and 25-28 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and will not be mentioned further. Claims 1, 5, 6, 8, 9, 10, 12, 17, 18, 23 and 24 have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention. Claim 29 has been added to provide Applicant with a more complete scope of protection. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The new language found in the amended and added claims is supported in the application as filed at least in the profile manager in Fig. 2, element 304-1-n in Fig. 6B, and Fig. 7.<sup>1/</sup>

In the outstanding Office Action, Claims 1, 5-9, 12, 17, 18, 23 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication 2003/0142332 (Endoh et al.).

The aspects of the present invention set forth in amended independent Claims 1 and 12 and newly added independent Claim 29 are to provide a solution to the conventional problem that, since a color profile of each device is independently managed by each client, it is necessary for each client to independently execute various processes such as updating, deleting and the like of the color profile. In consideration of the above problem, the present invention aims to perform effective management of color profile data

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<sup>1/</sup> It is of course to be understood that the claim scope is not limited by the details of this or any other particular embodiment that may be referred to.

of each device which is used by the plural clients. To achieve this object, the present invention manages use conditions of the respective color profiles of the plural clients.

More specifically, among other features recited in each of the independent claims are (i) determining whether the received access information is coincident with the hold access information, and (ii) registering the access information to the registered profile list administration data in case that the access information is new to the hold access information due to determining in the determining step.

According to the present invention, since the use condition of each client is managed in regard to the color profile of the device, the color profile of each device can effectively be managed.

On the other hand, *Endoh* relates to a system in which, on the premise that it is difficult on a host computer side to grasp composite conditions being a combination of attribute values in a device having plural function attributes ([0005]), an attribute table is held for each of plural functions and the attribute table is constituted so that the respective attributes correspond between the functions. One of the functions is a profile manager, and the appropriate color profile corresponding to a print job request is selected by referring to the attribute table by the profile manager ([0119]). The *Endoh* system uses the maximum number of retainable color profiles, and the number of the currently retained color profiles and the like, as attributes described on the attribute table of the profile manager ([0207]). Consequently, it appears that in the *Endoh* system the number of profiles or the like is retained as the device function attribute.

Applicant submits, however, that nothing has been found in *Endoh* that would disclose the above characteristics (i) and (ii) of the present independent claims,

namely, determining whether the received access information is coincident with the hold access information and registering the access information to the registered profile list administration data in case that the access information is new to the hold access information due to determining on the determining step.

Without these features, however, the *Endoh* system cannot achieve the present invention's effective management of the color profile of each device by managing the use condition of each client in regard to the color profile of the device.

Accordingly, it is believed that the present invention as recited in independent Claims 1, 12 and 29 is allowable over *Endoh*.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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